Re-alignment of N.H.-31

373. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question 2355 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd December, 2004 and state:

(a) whether the 2nd revised cost estimate for re-alignment of N.H.-31 from Falakata to Pundibari in Cooch Behar, West Bengal has been approved; and

(b) if so, by when the work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The 2nd Revised Cost Estimate amounting to Rs. 60529 crore had been sanctioned on 25th January 2006.

(b) The project comprises two packages. Package-I is for construction of major bridge across river Torsa and Package-II is for construction of 22.89 km. long road including approaches to the Torsa Bridge and construction of seven minor bridges. The work is being implemented by the State Government. As per sanction of 2nd Revised Cost Estimate, the tender for Package-I was to be re-invited after rescinding the existing contract agreement with M/s National Project Construction Company Limited, by the State Government, due to slow progress of the work. As informed by the State Government, the matter is *sub judice* and fresh tender could not be floated. The contractor of Package-II has been asked by the State Government for mobilization of all machinery.

Funds allocated for Golden Quadrilateral Project

374. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for the Golden Quadrilateral Project during the last two years, till date;

(b) whether Government have fixed any target under the said project during 2005-06 and 2006-07;